

on November 13th, at the age of ninety-one. He will be missed greatly by his surviving family and friends, and by the Nation he so dutifully served. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of this courageous man.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, in recognition of the first of December as World Aids Day, I want to take a moment to highlight the gravity of the HIV/AIDS situation, particularly for the African American community. We have heard statistic after statistic; HIV/AIDS is a formidable problem across the country in all communities. Indeed, an article in the New York Times this week noted that new HIV/AIDS case estimates are actually 50 percent higher than health experts had believed. This is unacceptable. America has within it the resources to address this issue; our political leadership must take action to do so.

The Centers for Disease Control, or CDC, reported that approximately 1,000,000 Americans were living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2003, roughly 25 percent of whom were undiagnosed and unaware of their HIV infection. Furthermore, this infection has started to increase among children at a drastic rate. Through 2005, there have been an estimated 9,000 AIDS cases reported for children under the age of 13. HIV/AIDS is becoming a problem earlier and earlier for more and more Americans.

It is very clear that HIV/AIDS is indeed an emergency situation in the African American community. According to the CDC, African Americans make up 13 percent of the Nation's population but account for 49 percent of the estimated AIDS cases diagnosed since the epidemic began. In addition, African American children make up approximately 63 percent of the estimated HIV/AIDS cases through 2005. Not only are African Americans more likely to get AIDS, they are more likely to die from it, with more than half of all AIDS-related deaths being among African Americans. Through science, research, and medical advancements, there are better treatments, prevention efforts, and a decline in AIDS diagnoses and deaths, except for African Americans.

HIV/AIDS is plaguing and destroying African American communities. Yet, I wonder how many of my colleagues or how many Americans, including African Americans, know how devastating and destructive this disease is on one population in our country. It leads to the questions: Why is more not being done? Why has this not been considered a national public health emergency? With more African American males in prison, more African American females living and dying with HIV/AIDS, what is to happen to the African American children and families?

I commend all of those individuals in my community who have pledged to do what they can. I, myself, have been publicly tested 3 times to help convince individuals to be tested, to do the things that are necessary. However, my fellow colleagues and I and all Americans

need to do much more about this problem. We all must get behind the World AIDS Day slogan: "Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise." We must increase funding for treatment and prevention, not reduce it by 19 percent as this administration has done. We must invest in medical research and needle exchange programs—prevention and treatment. The more engaged we are and the stronger determination we have will lead to the decrease in AIDS cases across the United States in all communities.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE GALLAGHER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend Lawrence Gallagher. Mr. Gallagher unfortunately passed away this past Thursday at the age of 68. Larry lived his life with a strong commitment to his family and to his community and is certainly most deserving of this honor.

Born in Boston, he enlisted in the United States Air Force shortly after finishing high school and was proud to serve his country with courage and distinction. At the end of his service, Larry settled in Riverside, California where he began his career in law enforcement eventually becoming the Deputy Sheriff. With a passion to serve the public, Mr. Gallagher went on to become Director of Criminal Justice Planning for the Southern California Association of Governments.

Throughout his life, he remained involved in his community by being a member of the Rotary Club, volunteering at the local YMCA, and serving on the board of directors at the South Bay Youth and Family Center. A devoted family man; he will be deeply missed by his wife, Linda; his children Donald, Dennis, Denny, and Holly; and his seven grandchildren.

Larry had a passion for water resources that led him to serve with a number of California water authorities such as: the Kern County Water Agency, the West Basin Municipal Water District and the Association of California Water Agencies. For years, I was proud to work with Larry on the water issues facing our Valley and I was fortunate enough to call him a friend. He kindly agreed to serve on the selection committee for the Jim Costa—Kern County Water Agency Water Resources Fellowship and I was grateful for his advice and wisdom.

Larry Gallagher was a man of great principle and integrity. He was my friend and I will miss him a great deal. He conducted his life with a reverence for humanity and with the philosophy of ensuring that our future generation's quality of life was protected and assured. It is with great pride that I honor him for all that he did on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley and for California.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANN CALDWELL'S SERVICE TO SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to a constituent of mine, Mrs. Ann Caldwell, and her decades of service to Southern Union State Community College in Wadley, Alabama.

For the past 33 years, Mrs. Caldwell has served the Southern Union music department, during which time she earned many noteworthy accomplishments, including a standing invitation at Carnegie Hall in New York City. She is well known across East Alabama for her musical and leadership abilities, and she is frequently praised for directing highly successful and entertaining musical performances for the community each year. In addition to her service on campus, Mrs. Caldwell is an active member of her community and church.

I thank Mrs. Caldwell for her decades of academic and community service, and I wish her and her family all the best in the future.

HONORING JOHN R. SHAFER OF ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John R. Shafer on the occasion of his receiving the 3rd Annual Making a Difference Award from the non-profit organization Healthy Moms and Babies. This award is being presented in recognition for his outstanding work in support of making healthcare accessible to all in the Napa Valley.

Mr. Shafer has always had a strong commitment to public service. At age 18 he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and flew combat missions over occupied Europe as a B-24 bomber pilot. After a long career in corporate textbook publishing, he came to the Napa Valley, as so many before him, looking for a new place to call home. John purchased a vineyard site in an area known as Stag's Leap. Although it had been idle for several years, he had a vision that it could grow to become one of the country's premier wineries. The following year, he moved his family to California to make this vision a reality.

Since then, Shafer Vineyards has grown into a world class winery and has done so while practicing and promoting sustainable, earth-friendly agriculture. Throughout his success in the wine industry Mr. Shafer has remained committed to serving his community. In addition to being a former president of the Napa Valley Grape Growers Association and a former member of the board of the Napa Valley Vintners Association, Mr. Shafer has also been active with the board of directors of the Community Health Clinic Ole since 1990. Clinic Ole is dedicated to bringing the highest quality medical and dental services to the underserved communities in Napa County and

has become an essential part of the health and well being of all residents of the Valley.

In addition to his support for Clinic Ole, Mr. Shafer also spearheaded the building of the Napa Valley Vinters Community Health Center. This facility houses not only Clinic Ole, but also the Sister Ann Community Dental Clinic, Napa Emergency Women's Services and also Healthy Moms and Babies, which provides pregnancy care, education and support to women in underserved communities. By seeing this project through to completion Mr. Shafer has helped to ensure that healthcare will be available to the underserved in a way that is both coordinated and accessible.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting at this time that we thank John Shafer for his commitment and dedication to helping others and his community. His efforts have ensured that thousands of residents in the Napa Valley have access to the best medical care for themselves and their children. The Making a Difference Award is only one reflection of what will surely be a legacy that will last for many years.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR MARC ZIMMER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Marc Zimmer of Connecticut College for his outstanding achievements and contributions to local, national, and international academic communities. Marc was honored with a Professor of the Year award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and The Carnegie Foundation in Washington, D.C. on November 15.

Upon completing his undergraduate degree in chemistry at the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa, Marc moved to the United States where he earned his doctorate at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University. Marc remained in the academic community, continuing original research in the fields of chemistry and joining the Connecticut College faculty in 1990. Throughout this period, he served on numerous boards and committees in chemistry and related fields and was a featured lecturer at some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the United States, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

His publications in pioneering chemistry subjects have promulgated technological innovation, but just as importantly, inspired student involvement and interest. His most recent publication, "Glowing Genes", simplifies complexities of chemistry and biotechnology to a pedestrian relevancy and understanding. "Glowing Genes" explores the potential of green fluorescent protein (GFP), a glowing component in the *Aequorea victoria* jellyfish species, with detecting biological weapons, combating cancer, and improving agricultural production.

Academic faculties provide the foundation for education systems, and in turn, potential health, safety, and prosperity of our society. Professor Zimmer has proven to be an exemplary academic leader at Connecticut College, and more broadly through his contributions to

international chemistry curriculum. These contributions will undoubtedly ensure a healthier, safer, and more prosperous society for all. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing Professor Zimmer's outstanding accomplishments and contributions and welcome many more to come.

IN MEMORY OF SEAN TAYLOR

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, the poem below was written by poet and Capitol guide Albert Carey Caswell in honor of Sean Taylor, a Miami native and professional football player for the Washington Redskins. I rise with a heavy heart in mourning the tragic passing of Sean Taylor, a man with a bright future who left behind a loving family and scores of adoring football supporters and admirers. We pray for the Taylor family during this difficult and wrenching time. I hope these words provide some comfort to a grieving family. I humbly submit the following poem into the RECORD:

TAYLOR MADE

God Is Good, God Is Great!
All in his image, in what he has made . . .
All in what he creates!
To give to this world, in what we do . . . in
how we act . . . in all we say, to leave
behind to view!
Into our lives as sent . . .
Messages from our Lord, Taylor Made for all
of us of what life is meant . . .
To reach us, To teach us, To beseech us by
people, who in our time with us is
spent . . .
Taylor Made . . .
Beauty and The Beast!
As was Sean Taylor, number "21" . . . was
such a fine work of art to say the least!
For Sean Taylor, was Born To Run . . .
Upon, football fields of green . . . in Sunday
suns . . . in The NFL, as was this his
father's fine son!
As what our Lord had so begun . . .
A quiet and caring man, with but a calm and
steady hand!
Who high above all others, did stand . . . as
to his teammates' hearts and souls, he
ran!
Who on fields of green, brought forth such
roars throughout the stands . . .
A Man of passion . . .
Who to all hearts and souls, would so inspire
. . . as he would fashion!
A man of heart and soul, body and mind . . .
all in his short lifetime, so portrayed
in all his actions . . .
Not a hole but left by him!
But, perhaps a Void . . . that which may
never so be filled again?
For only such things in life, as left . . . by
those hearts who bring such inspiration
all in their short breaths!
A humble, quiet caring man . . .
Who in the spotlight, did not so wish to
stand . . . a family man!
Who upon fields of green, would turn into a
machine . . . creating one of The NFL's
greatest scenes!
For all that which is Good and Great! For all
that which our Lord so makes . . .
By his hand, Taylor Made . . . he creates . . .
Will not run, and Will not lie . . . with
hearts of gold, will so rise!

All in that moment of truth, of which now so
lies . . . but for their loved ones, will
so die!

Only, The Good Die Young! Now, in Heaven
Sean you run!

As so too have you, Sean our fine son . . .
now with all of those Angels, too
among!

As you are, but with all of those who have
flown, Up To heaven . . . with our
Lord, where you belong!

And in the coming years, on Sunday morn-
ings here . . .

Whenever, we think of you Sean . . . we'll
hear your voice beyond . . . all in our
tears!

Remembering how you lived life, remem-
bering how your soul burned bright . . .
as with you, we'll be near!

And what God has Taylor Made!

Hush . . . hush!

Hush . . . Little baby, Don't You Cry!

Because, one day up in heaven . . . once
again, you will gaze into your fine fa-
ther's eyes!

TRIBUTE TO CIRCUIT JUDGE JERRY WINCHESTER

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I want to bring to the notice of the House the long distinguished career of one of Kentucky's greatest attorneys, Jerry Winchester, who is returning to private life. His career spanned the wide expanses of the profession, from private practice to prosecuting attorney and judge. He was tough but fair, diligent and prepared—attributes that command the respect of anyone who has ever witnessed him in a courtroom.

Circuit Judge Jerry Winchester is leaving the bench after 20 years of deciding major civil and felony criminal cases—the murders, assaults, robberies and drug cases. He brought closure to victims and justice to perpetrators and there was nobody better.

His judicial circuit, made up of McCreary and Whitley Counties, has the highest case-load in Kentucky. Yet, he ran the court at a steady clip to handle the load, when it could have bogged down under less able leadership. He had few staff, and in the early years, none at all. He was the sole judge for over a decade and citizens counted on him alone for conducting speedy trials. This basic right, embodied in the sixth amendment of the Constitution, was upheld for thousands in southern and eastern Kentucky because of this one dedicated individual.

As the Commonwealth's prosecuting attorney in the 70's and 80's, Jerry Winchester was not interested in "running the numbers," or measuring success by how many people he put in prison. When offenders deserved harsh punishment, they got it. He weighed fairness and ethics to seek a punishment that fit the crime in those many cases where good judgment is the only thing that keeps justice from unraveling. The golden scales of justice were felt in the courtroom, it was witnessed over and over by judges, attorneys, victims, criminals and juries.

Before serving as Commonwealth's Attorney, Jerry was a high school teacher, an FBI